



City of Cincinnati
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Ohio
Fraternal Order of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts listed below

Collaborative Agreement Parties Announce Transition Period Plan

As parties in the Collaborative Agreement (CA), the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the City of Cincinnati, and the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), today announced that they have accomplished many of the agreement's provisions requiring use of force and accountability reforms and have agreed on a transition period for the full implementation of the remaining provisions focused on problem solving and related goals.

The Monitor and the parties have agreed that the use of force and accountability provisions have become part of the policy and practice of the Cincinnati Police Department ("CPD") and, therefore, federal court supervision should end August 5, 2007, as scheduled with respect to those provisions.

Another key area of the CA involves Community Problem Oriented Policing. The City expects that by August 5, 2007 all of the policies, procedures and training curricula needed to achieve compliance in this area will be in place, and that the monitoring team will have approved them. However, additional time, effort and energy are needed before the City can fully implement these provisions. Therefore, the Monitor and the parties have agreed that a transition period be instituted until August 5, 2008 to accommodate this full application. Court supervision will be limited to that period, and no new items unrelated to the original terms of the CA will become subject to the court supervision. The City and ACLU will be submitting a joint motion to the Federal Court to approve this request for limited, continued supervision.

Further, the parties agreed the FOP should be dismissed as a party during the transition period, though it is welcome to continue to participate in all aspects of the Collaborative.

There will be no additional financial cost to the City for this transition plan.

"This five-year process has been about finding common ground, said City of Cincinnati City Manager Milton Dohoney. "As we finalize this agreement, I am

happy that we have been able to come to an understanding of the processes that will continue."

ACLU attorney Al Gerhardstein said, "Full implementation of problem solving or evidence based policing, will lead to real progress on relations between the police and the African American Community. Continued court supervision and deadlines will keep us focused on this hard work."

FOP President Kathy Harrell said, "We are pleased that the other parties to the Collaborative Agreement have affirmed the voluntary efforts of the FOP in fulfilling its obligations within the five-year period of the collaborative agreement."

The CA was adopted in August of 2002, and sets forth specific community-wide goals for improving both policing and police-community relations:

- Police Officers and Community Members Will Become Proactive Partners in Community Problem Solving;
- Build Relationships of Respect, Cooperation, and Trust Within and Between Police and Communities;
- Improve Education, Monitoring, Hiring Practices and Accountability of CPD;
- Ensure Fair, Equitable, and Courteous Treatment for All; and
- Create Methods to Establish the Public's Understanding of Police Policies and Procedures and Recognition of Exceptional Service in an Effort to Foster Support for the Police.

Under the terms of the Collaborative Agreement, the parties have accomplished the following reforms demonstrating *significant progress* toward meeting the agreement's goals:

1. **Use of Force Policies/Training.** Use of force policies were revised, training developed, and use of force investigation protocols improved;
2. **Deadly Force.** The use of deadly force by the Cincinnati Police against African American citizens has been dramatically reduced;
3. **Injuries to Citizens.** Injuries to citizens during arrests have been dramatically reduced;
4. **Injuries to Police Officers.** Injuries to police officers during arrests have been dramatically reduced;
5. **Mentally Ill.** Responses to mentally ill citizens have improved due to training and deployment of Mental Health Response Teams;

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6. **Citizens Complaint Authority.** Officers are more accountable through investigations by the Citizens Complaint Authority;
7. **Videotaped Traffic Stops and Contact Cards.** Traffic stops are routinely taped through mobile video recorders mounted in every patrol car and contact cards are completed collecting traffic stop information necessary to conduct traffic stop analysis;
8. **Employee Tracking Solutions System.** Nineteen types of officer conduct, performance, and activity are carefully tracked and evaluated regularly through a comprehensive employee tracking system;
9. **Publicized Police Policies.** Police policies and crime statistics are available and accessible to the public ([http://cincinnati.oh.gov/police/pages/-5109/-](http://cincinnati.oh.gov/police/pages/-5109-/));
10. **Community Police Partnering Center.** The Greater Cincinnati Foundation founded Better Together Cincinnati, a funding collaboration of major corporate and nonprofit foundations throughout the region, which secured \$5 million in initial private funding to establish the Community Police Partnering Center. The Center is hosted by the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati, which is represented on the board along with the ACLU, the City, Fraternal Order of Police, NAACP, and other community representatives; and
11. **CIRV/Ceasefire/Out of the Crossfire/Focused Neighborhood Services.** Beginning in 2006, the parties have supported the establishment of violence reduction efforts using problem-solving principles including Operation Ceasefire, Out of the Crossfire at university Hospital, Price Hill/Avondale Focused Neighborhood Services, and Cincinnati Initiative to reduce Gun Violence (CIRV).

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